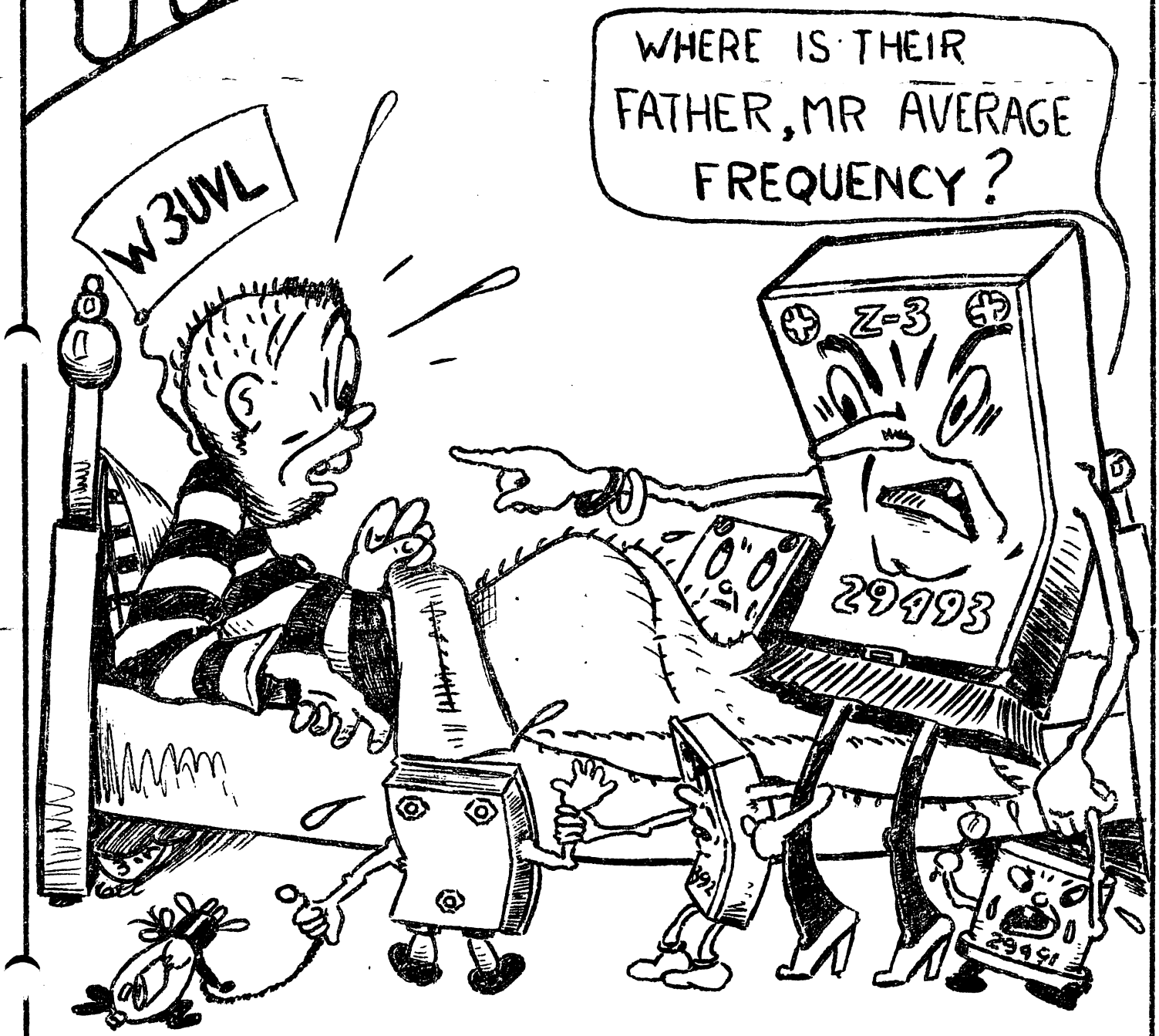
THE BLURB

APRIL 1956



T H E

B L U R B

Published monthly
by the
Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club
Philadelphia and Suburbs

VOL 5 APRIL 1956 NO 4

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The BLURB is published by and for the members of Phil-Mont to further the interest of Amateur Radio in general and Mobile Radio in particular. We endeavor to keep the news accurate, interesting, and in a small way educational. Any deviation from this is purely unintentional.

DEADLINE

All material for the BLURB must be in the hands of W3PXY by the 15th of the month. Any items for the Trading Post must be received by W3EXY not later than the 15th of the month.

CLUB OFFICERS 1956

PRESIDENT	Robert G. Thomas	W3QZO
VICE PRESIDENT	John Muroff	W3SAI
SECRETARY	Clinton R. Spencer Jr.	W3QQH
TREASURER	Ernest Juliani	W3D$G

MEETINGS

First Monday of the month, Town Hall
Germantown Ave. & Haines Street at 8:00PM

NET FREQUENCIES

Channel #1-29493kc Channel #3-27000kc
Channel #2-29626kc Channel #4-50.7mc
29493 is monitored from - 0630 to 0001 daily for the benefit of the mobiles in the Philadelphia area. ----------

NETS

SEN 0730-0830 weekdays "10 on 10", 10 AM Sunday. Blarney sessions anytime. All on Channel #1

FROM THE PRESIDENT:

Frequency Monitoring: By talking or listening?

A few years back, a form letter was issued by Phil-Mont to club members and other interested parties, suggesting that our channel 1 be employed only for mobile communication, or for calling to establish initial contact if a QSO was desired. The idea was to keep lengthy transmissions off channel 1 (by use of channel 2) to facilitate handling urgent traffic. In recent months, common usage of the channel has extended far beyond that for which it was originally intended; in fact, 29.493 may now be more accurately described as a "ragchew" frequency than a "monitored" frequency. Continuance of this trend is advocated by one group who contends that "activity breeds more activity", and the best way to have a monitor available for emergency purposes is to have as many stations as possible using the frequency. Considerable local activity is purported to keep the channel clear by making it obvious to DX stations that 29.493 mc is in use. This group does not intend to go overboard with their chit-chat; it is planned to employ frequent pauses for breakers.

On the other hand, the trend is opposed by a group who maintains that now there is no frequency where a mobile operator can request help and expect to get an immediate reply. They further claim that despite good intentions to the contrary, ragchewing leads to long-winded transmissions that delay emergency traffic. The backbone of our unique monitoring system is the stations with fixed frequency squelch receivers and remote operating positions who stand by almost all day. It's easy to say, "If those birds don't like what they hear on channel 1, let them turn their ---- receivers off!" This can be done. But who's going to be monitoring when the yakkers get tired of yakking and sign off to watch TV? Let's give serious thought to the problem before fouling up a system that has proved its worthiness. There is always channel 2, not to mention channels 3, 4 and 5!

W3QZO

THE LATEST SCOOP

Word has it W3SGR is having trouble again with his peepers and is in the hospital. The boys are planning a phone patch to him - you must lay off that cheap mouthwash, Carl. --- Sunday afternoon 3/18/56 - thanks to a very good phone patch at WW8K in Denver, the following stations were able to talk to Tom Watkins W3FPP: W3YJM, W3HQJ, W3QQH, W3QV and W3IW. Tom seemed to be in pretty gud spirits & we were all certainly glad to contact him de/W3IW .... You may have heard a gang is headed to Washington on a rootin-tootin-shootin with our birds-of-a-feather- the Washington Mobile Club. The date is April 6th Friday nite. Some fellers are riding rails, others are riding the clouds. Would be nice to get up a good group. .... Our April program will be a discussion & demonstration of D. F. loops & Xmtr hunting. Ideas for future programs are being solicited by W3SAI particularly along the lines suggested by W3DOU (antenna matching, modulator adjustment, etc.). We also need speakers, for instance W3NIP, W3IRS, W3HYU, W3KNC, W3DOU - Tex has F.B. variable xtal osc., W3QQH, W3D$G, W3QZO-Codan improvements - Conelrad receiver, W3VXN - phone patch. You will note all the long winded souls are listed ..... W3QZO reports the mayor of Millerville, N.J. was so impressed by our showing of our film "Every Single Minute" at Tri-City R.C., that he approved the purchase of several Gonset 2M communicators for C.D. The boys in the club had been working on him, the film clinched the deal - who knows, it might work elsewhere ..... W3SAI is looking fer an assist in preparing an article for CQ on the value of a film in public relations ..... We had a big write up about Old Timers nite the last time. What say we try again for first prize for the largest group there. Get your cash in to W3D$G ..... Well, after beaucoup time and much effort on W3ADF's part we have our license plates in hand. Our PIO (Public Information Officer) W3UVL has a good plan all schemed up to spread our propaganda far & wide o'er the breadth of the land (ED's waxen poetical - was reading Mickey Mouse lately). Get your license plate out for picture taking when you are called - the more the merrier .... W3VXN is working out a deal for distinctive club decals - we need our smooth headed Ida Mike in on this one - how about it Jay? .... The scheme cooked up by our publications research staff for sending out PXY - addressed cards is sure a good idea. We have received several here already - keep 'em coming, fellows. For those uninitiated, we have self-addressed post cards saying, "Have you any scoop fer the Blurb etc." which we are passing out in profusion to all members. Please make an effort to cooperate & send in what you hear. We are especially lacking in the N.E. section. We are voting to put W3MVG back to work - since he retired he has been too busy to sit. How about it, Arch?..... We hear W3KHS Chas O'lone is now W6QVI & is on 20 & 40. How's smoggin Chas? (That's the same as groggin except you don't need a gin mill)..... The word has it John McGluin was promoted to V.P. (marketing) of Campbell Soup.

*****

Dear OM: de/W3HTF

Those fellows working for Mobile WAS may be interested in the ARRL policy. I recently sent my 48 cards resulting from activity in the Phila. area to ARRL and received an answer from F.E. Handy W1BDI.

"I am obliged to advise you that we do not advertise endorsement of WAS for mobile (all mobile) work inasmuch as the factor of inability permitting vacationing hams to go to all parts of the nation would make it a different type of award, and something not regarded as "fair competition" by those accomplishing their work within the 48 states from one fixed point in the United States. The QSL's that amateurs originate often do not even show whether mobile work is differentiated from fixed station work, let along show the location of

the transmitting amateur who is receiving the QSL to confirm his contact! I don't doubt that there have been fellows who have worked all states, mobile installations, many completing what they started while on extensive travels as vacationers or salesman-representatives and some may have done such work from their own localities, but since we don't endorse in these special cases, we wouldn't have any record of that."

I did receive an unendorsed WAS certificate, however.

73's
Herm Lukoff W3HTF/M

RIG HUNT /de W3DOU

The March transmitter hunt was won by W3QQH with his directional trained whip antenna. A close second was W3D$G who really was hot on this one. Chuck W3NIP came in close behind Ernie for third with a brand new loop and this was his first participation this year with any more than a whip. W3AJO hid the transmitter aided by W3VSU. Swell job!

At mid year (3 hunts out of six) the standing scores are as follows:

W3QQH - 65
W3D$G - 55
W3DOU - 55
W3NIP - 20
W3HYU - 15
W3DFJ - 10
W3VXN - 10

Obviously a first place in the next hunt can almost reverse the order. Looks like a hot contest!

*****

One Step in the WRONG Direction

He brushed his teeth twice a day with a nationally advertised tooth brush and a miraculous tooth paste that killed germs, kept his teeth white, and gave him an irresistible smile.

The doctor examined him twice a year.

He wore rubbers when it looked like rain.

He stuck to a diet of plenty of fresh vegetables.

He relinquished his tonsils and traded in several worn glands.

He played golf, but never more than 18 holes.

He never smoked, drank or lost his temper.

He got at least eight hours of sleep every night.

The funeral will be held next Wednesday.

He is survived by 18 specialists, 4 health institutes, 6 gymnasiums and numerous manufacturers of health foods and antiseptics.

He didn't see his kids' toys on the stairs.

*****

We had a good groupe out to the last meeting (54). It appears the new meeting place has done its duty .... We are given to understand that W3IW does not have to whisper into the mike since the rig was moved to the basement .... W3UVL created the biggest swap movement in the history of Philmont ... W3TWQ is awaiting the arrival of a girl?? at the time of this writing. With 3 boys at present, a little of Eddie Cantor's secret balm or smoke oil would not be miss .... A YL showed up on PMRC Chan. 1. Sat. eve. Mar. 3rd - where were all the monitors? .... W3QZP's home rig will operate on 29,493.000 kc - Sue has had W3YJM up to the elbows in pastel paint - 'at's why he has been off the air. He is due back with a bigger rig as soon as he gets the white lead out! Membership cards were sent out to all. ED received one what said in red "Charter Member". Which brings us back to the days in '49 when we had 6 in the groupe. Sure has come a long & fine way due to the efforts of you all. Our gud exfriend W3PMD was our first Pres. He is "ex" because he doesn't come see no mo. Maybe we could talk him into meeting us all in Wash. April 6th. How about it, Roy? .... Which also brings back to mind, "Who has the first BLURB printed - then called the TVI Retreat? ED has a big ceegar to the feller who will turn one up..... W3NIP announced field day. Activities are about to get going. F.D. is June 23 & 24. Chuck needs draftees for the committees-he already has a few but many more are needed.

Some character chawed on a hoagie during the last regular meeting - did any of you boys catch that feller's name? He couldn't wait for refreshments - onions et al..... Reserve April 21 for the Trenton banquet ..... We now want to hand out one you will never believe if you weren't there - the Phil-Mont Mobile Club establishes its frequency 29,493.00000000 with a harmonica. Sound "A" fellows please - then zero beat. 'ats a fact! That is how W3UVL does it. We have 53 characters who heard him say it at the last regular meeting. Note that there were 54 in attendance ..... This ED noticed the lack of gladhanding in recent meetings. There are a lot of strangers around completely unknown & unnoticed. We didn't get to where we are with such tactics, you all. Let's get with it..... When you feed the pot at refreshments now you do so literally. One of the boys purchased a thunder mug hi.... The gang really chewed around the rag at the last MM. It was decided to insist that all sponsors of new members are to bring out the new recruit to MM for introductions & indoctrination.

*****

THE PERFECT PUMP

The ten rules for membership in the Coronary Club - all invitations to heart attacks - by Frank J. Curtis, vice president of Monsanto Chemical Co., are:

1. Your job comes first; personal considerations are secondary.
2. Go to the office evenings, Saturdays, Sundays, Holidays.
3. Take the briefcase home on evenings you don't go to the office. This way you can review completely all troubles and wordies of the day.
4. Never say no to a request; always say yes.
5. Accept all invitations to meetings, banquets, committees, etc.
6. Don't eat a restful meal - always plan conferences for the meal hour.
7. Regard fishing, hunting, golf, bowling, billiards, cards, gardening, as a waste of time or money.
8. Believe it's poor policy to take all the vacation allowed you.
9. Never delegate responsibility to others, carry the entire load yourself at all times.
10. If your work calls for travelling, work all day and drive all night to keep the next morning's appointment.

YOU HAVE TO ADJUST THE FOCUS

W3SAI

The other day I decided to have a go at the old evil eye, so I looked through the program section of the paper to see what was being offered. As I read the resumes it seemed as though some of the guys at Phil-Mont would fit the parts to a "T"; this is it for the week that began on March 11, 1956.

Sunday - 5:00 P. - Ch. 10 - Omnibus - "The Better Half" - the story of one man with two distinct personalities. Starring W3BBB and W3QQH.

6:30 P. - Ch. 10 - Waterfront - Cap'n John learns why an old man makes his home in a deserted trolley car. Starring W3VSU.

9:00 P. - Ch. 6 - Amateur Hours- N.Y. cabbie claims to know all the streets in the Borough of Manhattan and he'll attempt to prove that skill. Starring W2ZAS.

Monday - 7:00 P. - Ch. 10 - Superman - Boy editor uses a ruse to bring in a criminal but his big plan backfires to get him in trouble. Starring W3PXY.

10:00 P. - Ch. 12 - Boxing - 10 round lightweight bout from St. Nick's Arena, N.Y. W3UVL vs. W3QZO

Tuesday- 3:00 P. - Ch. 10 - My Hero - world famous photographer is commissioned to make an engaging picture of real estate. Stars W3YFV.

6:40 P. - Ch. 10 - Mr. Fixit - Starring W3IRS

7:30 P. - Ch. 6 - "Survival" - American tourist takes a wrong turn in the road and is lost in a dust storm. Starring W3NIP.

Wed. - 11:30 A. - Ch. 10 - Strike It Rich - Starring W3D$G

Thurs. - 11:00 A. - Ch. 3 - Home - How to purchase spring flowers for the garden. Starring W3WNC.

7:00 P. - Ch. 10 - I Led Three Lives - Co-starring W3SAI, W3SAI/3 and W3SAI/M.

9:00 P. - Ch. 6 - Star Tonight - "Love is a Lawyer" - W3ADF at his best.

Friday - 1:00 P. - Ch. 3 - My Little Margie - W3IDR and xyl.

9:30 P. - Ch. 3 - Star Stage - "The Man Who Was Irresistible to Women" - W3LNQ tells all.

Sat. - 2:00 P. - Ch. 3 - "Dinner At The Ritz" - with W3YJM

But my favorite was on Monday, just past midnight, on Ch. 10 - when the Late Show gave us "The Agitator" - in which the loudmouth complainer is finally given a chance by the big bosses to show how he thinks the business should be run.

DO YOU WANT TO BE AN EDITOR?
Robbed from the Autocall & W3NL

We sometimes wonder if those who have never edited a ham newspaper even remotely realize the responsibilities of an editor in getting out an issue. It is, of course, axiomatic that every editor wishes his paper to excel - he would like to have the best of them all. He would like a large circulation and while he knows it is like starting a car on ice at 60 miles per hour to have a"bang-up" job from the start, he keeps trying.

Every editor has standards for his paper. These are generally self-imposed and include, as well as the editorial policies, the size, format, number of pages, etc., generally controlled to a considerable extent by reproduction methods. Whatever the size, the editor is always confronted with the problem of what he can find to fill all that space. He knows that he has to do it; that no one else is going to do it for him. Many papers have floundered because the editor expected someone else to fill all that space for him.

On the one extreme, the editor can "live, eat and breathe"his publication. Every paper or magazine he reads is read, not for the information in the articles but to see if there is anything in it for his paper. All communications and actions are performed subsidiary to the primary project of getting news for his paper. He takes special pains to see that all information is complete and accurate; sometimes it takes his money and time just to check a small item to insure its accuracy or completeness. All schematics are checked and double-checked and he builds the constructional articles included to see if they work. He attends many club functions (and possibly he can be accused of doing so only to get news items for his paper). He contacts people "in the know" so his editorials will truly reflect the facts. All the while his brethren nimbly go their merry way, working DX and keeping schedules while the paper gets put together. The editor has become a slave to his paper!

On, on the other extreme, the editor can adopt a lackadaisical attitude toward the whole affair. He can dig up items out of general magazines and newspapers and reprint or rewrite articles therefrom, whether or not they have any "radio" value. He can reprint articles from radio publications regardless of the fact that they are of no practical interest to the home locality. His entire paper may consist of "hashed-up" material which may be neither complete nor accurate (in fact it may be entirely incorrect) but it fills space. In short, he is liable to wind up the issue without printing one single word about the organization or its members that is footing the bill for his paper!

The former method is the most difficult and takes a lot of time, effort and hard work, but the paper shows it. The latter is the easy way, but the paper ends up to be sheets of paper with printing on them which are of no practical value to anyone for reading purposes. Most ham newspapers operate someplace between these two extremes. There are few examples of the former although there are a few striking examples of some operating perilously close to the latter.

Sometimes we see a classy job, all done up nice and pretty, multilithed or printed, maybe folded like a book, but not a gol-durned thing in it of interest to anyone. Then again we see a "ditto-ed" edition, nothing fancy, no frills, which contains in one issue, more material and interesting information than in a volume or two of others. One editor uses very little time and a lot of the club's money on professional printing; the other spends a lot of time and very little money in getting the printing done.

The editor is faced with a considerable decision when it comes to his editorials. He may choose to print none at all, or at most, to keep them a mild, uninteresting factual statistical type which are not of much interest. Or, he may elect to stick his neck out a little and present editorials of genuine interest to the entire group even though he steps on a few individual

toes. Whatever he prints, someone won't like it. Someone will interpret an editorial as applying to himself individually (like the time this editor got three letters in response to an editorial, the writers of which had each singled himself out as the object, when the editor had none of the three in mind in particular when the article was prepared). Often someone will read something between the lines which never once entered the editor's mind when the editorial was written. Someone is sure to read an innuendo into an article now and then which simply doesn't exist except as a product of his own thinking. Unless the editor is willing to take these risks, he really doesn't have genuine editorials (and a paper).

Many editors have a "board of censors" being unwilling to trust his own judgment about what will be acceptable in general, and some have learned the hard way that this is a good policy. This board may be an "unofficial" sort of a thing where the editor checks his material with a few prominent members of the club, or it may be a full-fledged official board designated by the club. Unless the editor uses one or the other, he's liable to find the world cave in on him because he didn't use good judgment in the selection of his material. If the likelihood of this doesn't exist, then he's not putting out the best paper of which he is capable. And remember that he is doing all this on a voluntary basis.

Finally, the editor puts out an issue of which he is justifiably proud. He runs a constructional article on a grid-dip meter. He's built it, it works! It's marvelous! He's spent hours writing and rewriting the article; it's replete with detail and accuracy. The drawings are excellent. After the paper has been out for about a month, some geezer calls him on the phone (he never has time for operating) and says, "What we need in the paper more than anything else is an article on a grid-dip meter."

Do you want to be an editor of a ham newspaper?

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You have just read the amazing truth about editing a paper. We had a personal interview with the ED of the PMRC rag & asked him to comment on Andy's editorial. To be factual ED breaks every rule in the book, sometimes intentionally sometimes not. He scrounges material from anyplace and everyplace. He goes to meetings with an ear tuned for those choice little bits. He checks accuracy of matters of importance. He uses hearsay where it is of relative unimportance. The paper format is practical rather than formal. He relies heavily on a capable staff who edit their own selections, work out schematics & try the gimmick out. He has found, as might be expected, that everyone likes to see their name in print and tries to follow suit whenever possible. He boots a few in the pants & pats a few on the back for recognition of a job well done. He knows as all editors do that he is in one of the most powerful positions in the organization to control & sway thinking on any subject and in any direction.

He does so when he feels intuitively that it is necessary for the benefit of all. He lays off when matters are in hand. He tromps on a few toes when he feels it is necessary. He swallows the annoyance of having members call up his wife and read the riot act for something the ED put in the Blurb. He has felt pretty bad about seemingly unobtrusive notes placed in the paper that created serious hardships on the individuals involved - and he has had a few. He has over a period of time acquired a feel for how hard to press an individual & still have fun. He realizes there are one hundred different individuals in the club who have 100 different responses, have 100 different ideas, and read 100 different ways the same issue of the same paper written by the same editor. For all the guff he gives & takes, he must admit with a little assistance from the 100, he likes to do it.

Do you want to be an editor of a ham newspaper?

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FOR YOUR FILE

de W3VVS

Freq. Range (Kc or Mc)	Receivers ARC-5 or SCR-274-N	I. F. Freq. (Kc)
190- 550Kc	R-23, R-23A, R-148, BC-453-A or BC - 453-B	85
520-1500KC	R-24 or BC-946-B	239
1.5-3.0Mc	R-25	705
3.0-6.0Mc	R-26, BC-454-A, BC-454-B	1415
6.0-9.1Mc	R-27, BC-455-A, BC-455-B	2830

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DX LIST

Do not QSO

EP-EQ Iran
F18 French forces-Indochina
HL-HM Korea
XV-3W Viet-Nam
XU Cambodia
YB/YH Indonesia

As listed in March 1956 CQ Magazine

OK to Patch

DE Chile
CM-CO Cuba
EL Liberia
HC Ecuador
OA Peru
VE Canada
All W and K except KA2/KA9

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Transmitting and Receiving Antenna Forum

"The Evolution of "Beamed Power" Arrays" by M. D. Ercolino. The speaker discusses the development of antennas, their characteristics, patters and lobes, gain, impedance; transmission lines, masting, guying, rotation, S/N ratio, and phasing lines.

PLACE: Fox Chase Public School, Rhawn & Ridgeway Sts. NE Philadelphia, Pa.
DATE: April 3, 1956, Tuesday
TIME: 7:30 PM
SPONSORED BY: NE Radio Club

SWAP AND SHOP

April 1956

For Sale:

One complete 522 grey panel mounted receiver with "S" meter osc. & RF tuning. Panel mounted transmitter, meter and push button selection of four xtal positions with automatic transmitter tuning. Price $60.00 (W3DOU: Midway 2-7105)

HQ-129x and speaker - $125.00 (W3PXY: SW 6-3912)

Instructograph - ten tapes and audio oscillator - $25.00 (W3PXY: SW6-3912)

BC-342 & speaker - $80.00 (W3PXY: SW 6-3912)

1 - 10 meter transmitter 807 final; pp 46's mod. w/ 6V Dynamotor Supply and tubes. $15.00 (W3CDY - EL6-4787)

PL-68 3 circuit microphone plugs @ 25¢ each. (W3CDY: EL6-4787)

Seller is on his honor to send 10% of purchase price to club treasurer, W3D$G.

Please fill in coupon below and mail to: Harold Dillon W3EXY
275 Warrior Road
Drexel Hill, Pa.

- -

I have the following equipment for sale:

Name

Address

Phone

CONSIDER THIS

If a man indulge himself in murder, very soon he comes to think little of robbery, and from robbery he comes next to drink and Sabbath-breaking; and from that to incivility and procrastination. Once you begin upon the downward path you never know where you are to stop. Many a man has dated his ruin from some murder or other that perhaps he thought little of at the time

Thomas DeQuincey

*****

FACTS OF LIFE

In Saudi Arabia, any driver who has an accident resulting in a death is executed. When they say "The life you save may be your own" in Arabic - they aren't kidding.

Changing Times

THE PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB
Circulation and Printing Dep't.
216 PADDOCK ROAD - HAVERTOWN, PA.

FIRST CLASS MAIL

PHILADELPHIA, PA.
MAR 29
8-PM
19 56 62